

Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

Claim 16, has been amended as follows:

16. (amended) A method for covalently binding layers of partially double-stranded oligonucleotide linkers onto a double-stranded polynucleotide-target/polynucleotide-probe pair bound to an array to form a complex that can be detected by analysis, the method comprising:

covalently binding an initial partially double-stranded oligonucleotide linker to the polynucleotide-target/polynucleotide-probe pair, the initial partially double-stranded oligonucleotide linker having at least two single-stranded oligonucleotide arms and forming a complex with [as] at least two single-stranded arms; and

repeatedly

covalently binding a layer of one or more next partially double-stranded oligonucleotide linkers to the complex following association of the single-stranded oligonucleotide arms of the complex to complementary single-stranded arms of the next partially double-stranded oligonucleotide linkers, each one or more next double-stranded oligonucleotide linkers having a single-stranded oligonucleotide arm complementary to the [to]one or more of the single-stranded oligonucleotide arms of the complex and at least one single-stranded oligonucleotide arm not complementary to the single-stranded oligonucleotide arms of the complex and not complementary to the single-stranded oligonucleotide arms of the one or more next double-stranded oligonucleotide linkers.